

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
FOR THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

FILED

AUG - 6 2008

NANCY MAYER WHITTINGTON, CLERK  
U.S. DISTRICT COURT

KAREEMAH BELL,

Plaintiff,

v.

NATOSHA DORCEY,

Defendant.

Civil Action No. 08 1368

MEMORANDUM OPINION

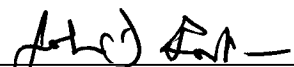
This matter comes before the Court on consideration of plaintiff's *pro se* complaint and application to proceed *in forma pauperis*. The Court will grant the application, and dismiss the complaint for lack of jurisdiction.

Unlike state courts of general jurisdiction, federal district courts have limited jurisdiction. A federal district court has jurisdiction in civil actions arising under the Constitution, laws or treaties of the United States. *See* 28 U.S.C. § 1331. Here, however, the complaint alleges an assault by a homeless woman in a shelter, a matter that is not governed by federal law.

A federal district court also has jurisdiction over civil actions in matters where the controversy exceeds \$75,000 and where there is complete diversity of citizenship among the parties. *See* 28 U.S.C. § 1332(a). Here it appears that both the plaintiff and the defendant are citizens of the District of Columbia, and therefore, complete diversity of citizenship among the parties is lacking. Furthermore, the plaintiff does not state an amount in controversy.

Accordingly, the Court will dismiss the complaint, without prejudice, for lack of subject matter jurisdiction. An appropriate order accompanies this memorandum opinion.

Date: July 29, 2008

  
United States District Judge